## Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 03680 141341Z ACTION EUR-12

R 141306Z APR 77
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3525
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
USDEL MTN GENEVA
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION OECD PARIS

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PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAGR, EEC

SUBJECT: EC POSITION ON INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT

REF: A) EC BRUSSELS 3447, B) EC BRUSSELS 2264, C) 76 LONDON 16040, D) 75 EC A-059

1. THE APRIL 5 EC COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS AGREED THAT THE EC SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE UNCTAD NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT (REF. A) BUT IT WAS UNABLE TO AGREE ON THE COMMISSION PROPOSAL FOR A NEGOTIATING DIRECTIVE (REF. B). UNDER THE COMMISSION PROPOSAL, THE EC WAS TO SEEK A SPECIAL STATUS UNDER THE ISA BY WHICH THE COMMUNITY WOULD HAVE NO EXPORT QUOTA BUT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO WORLD MARKET STABILITY BY HOLDING STOCKS CONSISTENT WITH ITS INTERNAL MARKET ORGANIZATION AND PARALLEL TO EXPORT RESTRAINT COMMITMENTS BY OTHER EXPORTERS. FRANCE AND BELGIUM REJECTED THIS NOTION AS HAVING THE EFFECT OF A DISGUISED EXPORT QUOTA, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHICH WOULD HAVE DEPARTED TOO FAR FROM THE EC NEGOTIATING MANDATE APPROVED FOR THE MTN.

2. COMMISSION OFFICIALS TELL US THAT EC PARTICIPANTS AT THE GENEVA ISA CONFERENCE WILL THUS CARRY WITH THEM NO NEW POSITION BEYOND THAT OF STOCK MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL ALREADY ELABORATED, AND REJECTED, AT LONDON ADVISORY GROUP MEETING LAST FALL

(REF. C). THEREFORE, THE NEGOTIATING MANDATE FOR SUGAR APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL (REF. A) IS NOT THE COMMISSION PROPOSAL (REF. B) BUT THE MANDATE ALREADY WORKED OUT IN THE CONTEXT OF THE MTN (REF. D). MORRIS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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